

Message Text

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41

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 NIC-01 SAM-01 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02

TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01

DRC-01 IO-14 /179 W

----- 085075

R 300948Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9072

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 1497

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, ELAB, PO, DA

SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH FORMER PRIMIN ANKER JORGENSEN

SUMMARY: SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY CHARIMAN (AND FORMER PRIMIN) ANKER JORGENSEN, TOLD VISITING NE DIRECTOR BUELL AND EMBOFF THAT DANES HAVE CONTRIBUTED 250 THOUSAND DKR TO PORTUGUESE SOCIAL DEMOCRATS AND HOPE TO INCREASE CONTRIBUTION TO ONE MILLION KRONER.

SWEDISH SOCIAL DEMOCRATS HAVE GIVEN SUBSTANTIALLY LARGER SUM. DISCUSSION ALSO TOUCHED ON DENMARK'S CURRENT ROLE IN NORDIC AND EC ACTIVITIES. END SUMMARY.

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1. DURING CALL ON FORMER PRIMIN JORGENSEN MAY 22, BUELL ASKED FOR DANISH SOCIAL DEMOCRATS' VIEWS OF PORTUGUESE SITUATION. JORGENSEN SAID DANES WERE HOPEFUL THAT PORTUGUESE SOCIAL DEMOCRATS WOULD BE ABLE TO ESTABLISH A STRONG AND ACTIVE PARTY, BUT THAT THIS WOULD REQUIRE A STRUGGLE AGAINST BOTH COMMUNISTS ON THE LEFT AND PARTIES ON THE RIGHT. ALTHOUGH HE HAD NO SPECIFIC INFORMATION, HE SAID HE ASSUMED THE COMMUNISTS WOULD BE WELL-FINANCED, AND THAT IT WAS CONSEQUENTLY NECESSARY FOR THE EUROPEAN SOCIALIST PARTIES TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL AID TO THEIR PORTUGUESE SISTER PARTY. THE DANISH SOCDEMS HAD DELIVERED 250 THOUSAND KRONER (\$42,000) DURING VISIT OF NORDIC DELEGATION TO PORTUGAL MAY 7-9, AND WERE CURRENTLY HOPING TO RAISE A TOTAL OF ONE MILLION KRONER (\$169,000). SWEDISH SOCIAL DEMOCRATS HAD TO DATE GIVEN APPROXIMATELY 4-500,000 SKR (95-115 THOUSAND DOLLARS), JORGENSEN CLAIMED.

2. ON THE DANISH GOVERNMENT CRISIS, JORGENSEN ADMITTED THAT THE MASS DEMONSTRATION IN MID-MAY HAD PLACED THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATS IN A DIFFICULT POSITION. SUCH POLITICAL SITUATIONS CREATE THE OPPORTUNITY FOR THE SMALL GROUP OF COMMUNIST AND PEOPLES SOCIALIST (SF) TRADE UNION OFFICIALS IN COPENHAGEN TO EXERT CONSIDERABLE INFLUENCE, BUT HE EXPECTED THAT WITHIN THE NEAR FUTURE SITUATION WOULD RETURN TO NORMAL.

3. WITH REFERENCE TO A PRESS STORY SPECULATING THAT SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC (S)-RADICAL LIBERAL(R) ALLIANCE COULD BE OUTCOME OF GOVERNMENT CRISIS, JORGENSEN STATED THAT FOR THE PRESENT THERE WAS LITTLE SUBSTANCE IN SUCH SPECULATION. AN ALLIANCE IN DANISH POLITICS IS ONLY OF SIGNIFICANCE, HE NOTED, IF IT CAN PRODUCE A MAJORITY IN PARLIAMENT. ALTHOUGH HE COULD SEE POSSIBILITIES IN AN EVENTUAL S-R-MODERATE LIBERAL COOPERATION, S-R COMBINATION ALONE WAS NOT SUFFICIENT. ON THE OTHER SIDE, SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC COOPERATION WITH SF WAS NO LONGER VIABLE, NOT BECAUSE OF SOCDEM UNWILLINGNESS, BUT BECAUSE THE SF WAS CURRENTLY IN A BITTER COMPETITION WITH THE COMMUNISTS AND HAD TAKEN A MORE RADICAL POLICY LINE THAN

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BEFORE THE DECEMBER ELECTION.

4. CITING FACT THAT CONGRESS OF EUROPEAN TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION (ETUC) WAS OPENING IN COPENHAGEN NEXT DAY, LABATT ASKED FOR JORGENSEN'S VIEW ON ADMISSION OF THE ITALIAN COMMUNIST CGIL. WITH NO DOUBT OF FACT THAT HE HAD LEFT ACTIVE TRADE UNION WORK TWO YEARS PREVIOUSLY, JORGENSEN NEVERTHELESS SAID HE WOULD FAVOR CGIL ADMISSION.

HE FELT MANY ITALIAN COMMUNIST TRADE UNIONISTS WOULD - IN SCANDINAVIAN CONTEXT - BE MORE SOCIAL DEMOCRAT THAN COMMUNIST. MOREOVER, THE CGIL WAS PURSUING A POLICY OF COOPERATION WITH THE OTHER ITALIAN FEDERATIONS, AND COOPERATION WITHIN THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC ETUC WOULD, HE FELT, FURTHER THE PROCESS OF POLITICAL MODERATION. IT WAS ALSO IMPORTANT FOR THE EC, JORGENSEN STATED, THAT THE CGIL BE PART OF A UNITED EC, TRADE UNION MOVEMENT.

5. IN RESPONSE TO BUELL'S INQUIRY REGARDING CURRENT DANISH ATTITUDES TOWARD THE EC, JORGENSEN POINTED OUT THAT DENMARK IS NOW EXPERIENCING BACKLASH FROM ITS EC REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN. ALTHOUGH HE PERSONALLY HAD THOUGHT IT POOR TACTICS, MANY EC ADVOCATES HAD ARGUED THAT DENMARK NEEDED TO JOIN THE EC FOR THE ASSOCIATED ECONOMIC BENEFITS. NOW, WITH INFLATION IN NORWAY AND SWEDEN RUNNING AT 8 PERCENT COMPARED TO 14 PERCENT IN DENMARK, HE IS ASKED AT EVERY MEETING ABOUT THE PROMISED ECONOMIC ADVANTAGES. JORGENSEN SAID HE POINTS OUT THAT THE INFLATION RATE IN FINLAND IS 16 PERCENT AND IN WEST GERMANY 8 PERCENT - THAT IS, THAT THE RATE IS NOT DUE TO EC MEMBERSHIP - AND THAT, FURTHERMORE, HE HAD NEVER PROMISED AN ECONOMIC PAYOFF. HE HAD FAVORED EC ENTRY FOR THE BENEFITS OF POLITICAL UNITY, HE ADDED, THOUGH IN DENMARK THE STRONG OPPOSITION TO THIS RATIONALE MADE IT NECESSARY TO GO SLOW ON THAT FRONT. THE RECENT GALLUP POLL RESULT (INDICATING A PLURALITY OPPOSED TO EC MEMBERSHIP - 43 PERCENT, AGAINST 38 PERCENT IN FAVOR, 19 PERCENT DECIDED) WAS DUE TO THIS BACKLASH, HE THOUGHT, AND WOULD BE ONLY A TEMPORARY PHENOMENON IF THE RATE OF INFLATION COULD BE BROUGHT UNDER CONTROL.

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6. MESSAGE NOT CLEARED WITH BUELL BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE.
CROWE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: PINT, PFOR, ELAB, PO, DA, (JORGENSEN, ANKER)
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